

0245 R F 91 ed States Government

DUE
DATE

Memorandum

ACTION

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WILSON, J.M.		
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ZANE, J.O.		

RE: FEB 11 1991

TO: WMED:JW:0828

SUBJECT: Initiation of Enhanced Evaporation Methods for Solar Ponds

FROM: J. M. Kersh
Associate General Manager
EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.

To ensure that the Solar Pond Cleanout Program is accomplished as expeditiously as possible it has been determined that the initiation of the following limited scope actions prior to U. S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Headquarters (HQ) approval of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation would not constitute a conflict with the intent and spirit of NEPA, but would serve the best interests of the public. The actions are:

1. Addition of Blue Lace 321 Dye (technical grade of version of FD&C Blue #1). EG&G Rocky Flats has stated that this dye is nontoxic, non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulated, and non-bioaccumulative. The addition of the dye to the pond water would increase the solar heat absorption and thus the natural evaporation rate.
2. The addition of this dye would not prejudice the choice of alternatives described in the Environmental Assessment approved by the EM-1 Secretarial Officer at DOE/HQ on Dec 28, 1991 and currently under review by the EH-1 Headquarters group.
3. Fastening tiedowns (metal hooks) as preparation for holding down the aerators.
4. Running electrical hookups for aerators.
5. Surface installation and electrical connections for the heaters (Heater/Soaker Pipes).
6. Surface installation of soaker pipes on pond berms.

These actions are considered temporary in nature and reversible (except for the dye addition) and can be accomplished as scheduled, however a final approved Environmental Assessment/Finding Of No Significant Impact is essential prior to operation of these devices.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Lukow at extension 4561 or Gary Huffman at extension 7490.

David P. Simonson
David P. Simonson, Assistant Manager
for Environmental Management

ADMIN RECORD

J. M. Kersh

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cc:

Tom Lukow, DOE/RFO

Gary Huffman, DOE/RFO